

To All,

I have added some interesting stories/incidents that may paint a future trend in terrorism in the United States. Since terrorism has no defined boundaries (philosophical or geographical) and the attacks can come from many sources (mail, vehicle, telephone, aircraft, physical, etc), it is important to understand how USDA fits into the threat matrix of terrorism.

To draw this picture, I have included the following:

Philosophy: I've provided a story about an Animal Rights Group that has a philosophy of targeting individuals that belong to organizations they believe is inhumane to animals.

Preparation: I have put just a couple more incidents about stolen government vehicles and badges to remind us to be very careful who we release information to or allow unescorted access to.

Attack Methods: Mail bombs, contaminants (ricin, anthrax, hoaxes, etc.), home attacks, etc . The third incident is about a hoax (white powder) threat that comes into a Federal building and the forth incident is about bombs discovered in the mail.

History of Attacks: As an example of attacks, I have enclosed a chronological listing of events for ricin. As you can see, this biological agent is easy to make, and has a potential for a deadly outcome.

USDA has already been a target of these types of attacks as we've seen in either a collateral environment or singularly with the Forest Service. I think we all understand that these incidents will not go away any time soon and because of that belief we need to be as proactive as possible in ensuring the protection of our employees and USDA mission critical assets.

~~~~~  
~~~~~

1. £10m 'Bounty' for UK Animal Rights Protesters

~~~~~  
~~~~~

They look like any other residents of a quiet suburban street. The two women and a man share a £500,000 19th century house in

Surrey's stockbroker belt, where they fit in easily among their affluent neighbors.

But neighbors are unaware that these are among the country's most feared animal rights activists.

Backed by millionaire benefactors - one of whom donated the cottage - Xxxx Xxxx, his wife Xxxxxx and ex-wife Xxxxxx Xxxxxx have turned their group, Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (Shac), into a powerful organization with thousands of members across the world. Their campaigns have forced high-profile City institutions to terminate profitable contracts with medical research firm Huntingdon Life Sciences, notably the resignation of its auditors Xxxxxx & Xxxxxx, its broker XXXX and its banks.

Now the City is striking back by offering rewards of up to £10 million for the prosecution of activists who campaign against companies such as XXX.

Shac supporters trace company directors and their families and intimidate them into relinquishing their links to Huntingdon.

The group is led by 38-year-old Xxxx - also known as Xxxx Xxxxx and Xxxx Xxxxxx. He joined the animal rights movement at 15 and became a vegan. Although he trained as a _____, animal rights soon became a fulltime job with stints as a hunt saboteur and anti-vivisection fundraiser.

Xxxxxx likes to boast: "We have a 100 per cent success rate. Whoever we choose to target is finished."

In 1999, the couple formed Shac, targeting Huntingdon Life Sciences' financial backers and small clients. They put the names and addresses of shareholders on their website and sent pickets to their homes. Workers' neighbors received leaflets saying they were living near a "murderer".

~~~~~  
~~~~~

2. Lost/Stolen Badges/Credentials

a. (From JRIES - 5APR04) 4/5/04 6:04 AM D.C. Police Stolen Identification and Badge MDC JOCC

On 4/4/04, between the hours of 1515-1615, a sworn member of the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C. had her official identification and police badge stolen. The badge carries #587 and is silver in color (D.C. Police complaint #045366). Anyone with information is asked to contact the Synchronized Operations Command Center on 202-727-9099.

b. LOST SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT ID

SPECIAL ATTENTION BILOXI, MS AREA
LOST/ STOLEN JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE ID WITH
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CORRECTIONS CLERK- LINDA
DAUGHTREY BADGE # J-602
ISSUE DATE: 10/03/2003
EXP. DATE: 01/03/2005

IF FOUND PLEASE CONTACT JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFFS
DEPARTMENT
171 INDUSTRIAL PARK, MONTICELLO, FL 32344 - 850-997-2523
~~~~~  
~~~~~

3. CRIME/INCIDENT: Stolen Government Vehicle

a. SUMMARY: At 1510 hrs, Government employee notified Suitland Mega Center of government vehicle that has been stolen. She states on Friday, April 02, 2004 the GSA motor pool issued a vehicle for her to pick up on Sunday April 04, 2004. The 2004 Blue Dodge Stratus Government tag G10-37823 was parked at the loading dock area of Regional Office Building at 7th and D Street SW on Friday evening. On Sunday April 04, 2004 approximately 1445 hrs the vehicle was no longer at originally parked location.

b. 04-04980 PD FAIRFAX CO, VA 20040402
TO ALL STATES

REQUEST LOOKOUT FOR STOLEN UNMARKED STATE DEPARTMENT
VEHICLE CONTAINING A POLICE TYPE RADIO. TAKEN BETWEEN
1830HRS 01 APR AND 0730HRS 02 APR.

THE VEHICLE IS A RED 2002 FORD CROWN VICTORIA 4 DOOR
BEARING

VIRGINA TAG YBP8846, VIN/2FAFP71W82X157870. THE VEHICLE HAS BEEN ENTERED INTO NCIC AS NIC/V102692493.

IF LOCATED PLEASE RECOVER AND CONTACT THIS AGENCY.

PS COMMUNICATIONS/703 691-2233
S/OFC AI SAPONARA/MCLEAN STATION/703 556-7750
AUTH: LTCOL SG DEVLIN PD FAIRFAX CO, VA JEROME
1655 EST
~~~~~  
~~~~~

4. White Powder Empties Armstrong, PA Courthouse

KITTANNING, Pa. -- When the 75-or-so employees at the Armstrong County Courthouse first heard they were being evacuated, they weren't surprised.

They'd gotten bomb threats before, they thought.

When they heard it was for two envelopes found containing a white, powdery substance -- one in the district attorney's office and one sent to a judge -- they were a bit nervous, but skeptical it was anything serious.

No one would send anthrax to Kittanning, they thought.

But when they had to stand in line for a tent shower in the hospital parking lot to get decontaminated, they stopped laughing. It wasn't funny anymore.

By the end of the day, though, what the employees were left with was a story to tell their families. A preliminary field test of the white powder showed it was a nontoxic substance.

Police were notified about 11:45 yesterday morning that two envelopes, both containing a fine, white, powdery substance folded into blank pieces of paper, had been received in the courthouse. One was opened by a secretary in District Attorney Scott Andreassi's office. The other was opened by an administrative employee in Common Pleas Judge Kenneth Valasek's office.

The building was evacuated, and the employees were bused to Armstrong County Memorial Hospital, where they were decontaminated inside a big yellow tent in the parking lot.

The employees went through a series of zippered compartments - one at a time -- and undressed. Then, they advanced to the next station where the barely warm water ran constantly, and they washed with a small bottle of liquid soap. Then they moved on to dry off and were handed their hospital garb through a small hole in the tent.

"It was just a wet, soggy mess," said Marsha Smith, who works in the first-floor domestic relations office in the courthouse. She noted the standing water in the tent was up to her ankles.

After the decontamination showers, each employee was taken into the hospital where vital signs were taken, and each was given an antibiotic, as well as a prescription.

~~~~~  
~~~~~

3. Three Letter Bombs Intercepted in Spain

MADRID-- Three letter bombs addressed to Spanish media organizations have been intercepted in Spain, three weeks after 191 people were killed in suspected al Qaeda train bombings.

Police explosives experts defused two of the letter bombs and blew up a third after they were detected by a scanner at a mail distribution centre in the northern city of Zaragoza on Thursday, the Interior Ministry said.

~~~~~  
~~~~~

4. A Brief Look at a Deadly Poison in Modern Times

Long before the recent ricin threats, the killer poison had a long record as a weapon in modern warfare and murder. Here's a list of shocking, frightening and troubling ricin incidents. Some of the perpetrators were caught, while others remain at large and ready to strike again.

At the end of World War I, the United States began studying ricin as a possible biological weapon. During World War II the United States and Great Britain built a ricin bomb that reportedly was tested but never used.

In 1962 the U.S. Army obtained a patent for making weapons-grade ricin.

The recipe was on a public computer at the U.S. Patent Office until recently. Ricin recipes also have been available in books about unconventional weapons, including *Silent Death* and *The Poisoner's Handbook*.

Georgi Markov, an exiled Bulgarian broadcaster, was assassinated in 1978

at a London bus stop by the Bulgarian Secret Police to silence his broadcasts for the British Broadcasting Service. Using the tip of a spring-loaded umbrella, the killer injected into Markov's leg a platinum pellet containing a lethal dose of ricin. Markov developed severe gastroenteritis and died after three days of intense fever and vomiting.

In 1982, Texas attorney William A. Chanslor was sentenced to three years

in prison and fined \$5,000 for plotting to kill his 39-year-old wife with ricin. He claimed that he needed the ricin to assist his wife's effort to commit suicide.

Four members of the extremist Minnesota Patriots Council were arrested in 1991 and subsequently convicted on charges of plotting to kill U.S. marshals by smearing homemade ricin on the doors of their cars.

In 1993, Canadian authorities confiscated a container of ricin from Thomas

Lavy, an American white supremacist who tried to enter Canada via Alaska

with guns, \$98,000 in cash and 130 grams of ricin. The Canadians freed Lavy, but the FBI arrested him two years later after discovering castor beans in his Arkansas cabin. He committed suicide in jail in 1995.

On Jan. 17, 1997, Thomas Leahy of Janesville, Wis., was charged with shooting his son and possessing .67 grams of ricin.

Police found the ricin mixed with a solvent that allowed it to penetrate human skin. Leahy pleaded guilty and was sentenced to prison for 14 years.

Documents discovered in November 2001 by military intelligence indicated that ricin was found at an al-Qaeda terrorist training camp in Afghanistan. Traces of the poison also were found in al-Qaeda caves in Afghanistan.

Kenneth R. Olson was arrested June 19, 2002, at his Spokane Valley, Wash., office for possessing one gram of ricin after coworkers tipped FBI officials that he had printed out documents on how to kill with undetectable poisons. Olson claimed it was for a research project for the Boy Scouts.

In October 2002 a British chemical company called Amersham alerted London authorities that an Islamic-funded terrorist group attempted to purchase a ton of saponin, a biological agent that when mixed with ricin can penetrate the human skin and kill. The terrorists claimed it was for a "fire retardant on rice intended for human consumption," which biologists called an "incredible explanation."

British police charged seven Algerian terrorists in January 2003 for manufacturing ricin in a London apartment. The ricin apparently was headed to a British army's food supply.

On March, 20, 2003, nine people were arrested after bottles containing ricin were discovered in a Paris railway station. The ricin reportedly had been planted by Chechen rebels who have strong links to al-Qaeda.

The FBI sent a classified intelligence bulletin to the nation's law-enforcement agencies on April 2, 2003, advising them terrorists were obtaining ricin. The same week intelligence sources reported terrorists in northern Iraq had tested ricin in water, as a powder and as an aerosol. The tests included killing donkeys, chickens and, reportedly, a man who died three days after being exposed in an Iraqi market.

On Oct., 15, 2003, ricin was discovered in a metal container inside of an envelope with a threatening letter signed by "Fallen Angel" in a mail-processing facility in South Carolina.

Another metal vial of ricin accompanied with a threatening letter signed by "Fallen Angel" was intercepted Nov. 6, 2003, by a military mail-sorting facility before almost reaching its intended destination at the White House.

On Feb. 2, 2004, ricin was discovered in a mail-processing room at the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington.